

REMARKS

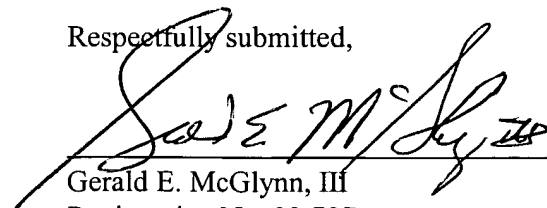
The present application was filed on December 30, 2003 including claims 1 - 10. Figure 1 of the drawings and paragraphs 27, 33, 43, and 45 of the specification have been amended as explained in greater detail below. Thus, claims 1 - 10 remain in the application. No new matter has been added.

Figure 1 has been amended to correct errors with respect to reference numerals 22 and 24 that are used to designate the inboard and outboard sides of the seat cushion 16. This correction has been effected by simply switching reference numerals 22 and 24 with respect to each other in amended Figure 1. In this way, the inboard and outboard sides of the vehicle seat assembly 10 for a passenger are properly designated in the amended figure.

The specification was amended at paragraphs 27 and 33 to more clearly state that the controller 40 sends output to the restraint system 42. Paragraph 43 was amended to identify applicants' co-pending patent application by its serial number, which was unknown at the time of filing. In addition, paragraph 45 was amended to more clearly state the advantages of the method of the present invention in its ability to distinguish between seat occupants.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims clearly distinguish over the prior art and are therefore allowable. Accordingly, applicants respectfully solicit the consideration and early allowance of the claims pending in this case.

Respectfully submitted,



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